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Case No.: 55788US003

TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

AELING, ELLEN O.

Application No.:

09/835725

Group Art Unit:

1772

Filed:

April 16, 2001

Examiner:

Watkins III, William P.

Title:

PERFORATED FILM CONSTRUCTIONS FOR BACKLIT SIGNS

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR § 1.136(a)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.136(a), Applicant petitions to extend the period for filing a reply in the above-identified application. The requested extension and appropriate fee are as follows (check time period desired):

≥ 37 CFR § 1.17(a)(1) - Extension within first month

37 CFR § 1.17(a)(2) - Extension within second month

37 CFR § 1.17(a)(3) - Extension within third month

37 CFR § 1.17(a)(4) - Extension within fourth month.

Please charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn A. Bates, Reg. No.: 27,853 Telephone No.: (651) 733-1523

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

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